Bible & Daily Living

Christ: bread of life

By William L. Trimyer
Christ's Care For The Body
Lesson for March 28, 1982
Bible Study Passage: Mark 6:30

Introduction

It has been said that Christ is the bread **of** life and the bread **for** life. The implications are clear. Christ became the "sacrificial loaf" that people might believe and enjoy eternal life.

This week's lesson focuses upon the well-known miracle story of Jesus and the feeding of the five thousand. It is noteworthy that all four Gospels record the miracle.

It is significant that Jesus never overlooked the spiritual or physical needs of persons. He was concerned for soul and body. He did not feed the body without also feeding the soul.

The church must follow the example of her Lord when seeking to minister to persons. There are some churches whose evangelistic zeal may overlook the needs for clothing, shelter and food. And then there are churches whose generous response to the basic human physical needs may overlook the need for spiritual nourishment. Christ would have his church to blend its ministries into a symphony of grace that touches the body and soul of humanity.

Rest for the Disciples [Mark 6:30-32]

Jesus did not desire for his followers to become workaholics! Verses 30-32 tell how the disciples return from their mission and share the excitement of all they said and did.

Jesus sensed their fatigue and encouraged them to enjoy an oasis. He did not urge them to rush back out and continue their labors; he urged them to take care of their physical and mental needs.

There is a helpful message here for all of us. We may become so absorbed in caring for the needs of others that we overlook our own. A friend of mine once decided to stop eating so that he could serve Jesus more. I said to my friend (rather bluntly), "If you don't eat you won't be around to serve Jesus."

The Demands Upon Christ [Mark 6:33-34]

Jesus was never really free from the needs of people. They would follow him wherever he would go. Jesus did not shy away or avoid the people who sought his help; rather, he somehow managed to find the strength to care.

The demands made upon ministers and professionals of all types can be stress producing. Especially is this true for those who do not take regular time outs to care for their leisure and rest needs. People who spend enormous amounts of energy and time "filling everyone's cup" must take care to have his or her cup filled.

Jesus often saw the crowds around him as "sheep without a shepherd." Jesus often went without leisure and rest to deal with the needs of the people. He found his oasis in his prayer and meditation. Here he experienced renewed strength for facing the demands and ordeals of his life.

Feeding the People [Mark 6:35-44]

The disciples were astounded that Jesus would invite five-thousand people to supper! The disciples were bent on sending the people away to fend for themselves, but Jesus said, "No, you feed them."

The task of feeding five-thousand people looked impossible, at best improbable. Yet Jesus instructs the disciples divide the people up to make seving easier.

The disciples were amazed that he who fed the spirit was willing to feed also the body. Their lack of faith in the powers of Christ forced them to inquire, "How are we going to feed such a crowd off of our small treasury?"

Jesus blessed the Giver of life and food and served the five-thousand with twelve baskets left over. This seems to say that God is able to bless with plenty left over for another time. The resources of God's goodness are never depleted.

When the people departed, they went away filled with wonderment over what was a pretty remarkable day in their life.

Dr. Trimyer is Chaplain at Burnham Hospital in Champaign, Illinois (WL-YP)

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Gospel group set

One of the leading **groups in the gospel music** industry today is coming to Southside Virginia. The **Dixie Melody Boys**, from Kinston, North Carolina, will be appearing in concert on Saturday night, March 27, 1982 at 7:30 p.m., Jarman Hall, Longwood College, Farmville, Virginia.

The Dixie Melody Boys have received many honors in their last 20 years in **gospel music**, including being nominated for the Dove Award and various categories in the Singing News Fan Awards. They have just finished recording another new album which will feature the song **Old Antioch Choir**. The album will be released soon.

Also, appearing with the Dixie Melody Boys, will be **The Seekers**, from Seneca, South Carolina. The Seekers have appeared throughout this area in the past few years. This concert is being made possible by Southside Gospel Music Fellowship, a non-profit organization. There will be no admission charge, however, a love offering will be taken.

Everyone is urged to attend, and come early to get a good seat.

Gospel Harmonettes celebrate anniversary

The Gospel Harmonettes will be celebrating their 10th anniversary beginning Thursday night. On Thursday night, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Rev. J. W. Paige will be preaching and the Scruggs family will be the guest group. On Friday night at 7:30 p.m., Rev. William Coleman and the Galilee Youth Service Singers will be the guest.

On Sunday, March 28, beginning at 6:00 p.m., the anniversary program will be held. Many groups are expected to be here and an enjoyable program has been planned.

All these activities will be held at the Jordan Baptist Church.

Red Oak slates observance

Red Oak Baptist Church in Oakville will observe "Get It Together For God" on Sunday, March 28. It is hoped that each member who received a part of the puzzle will help complete the puzzle by Sunday, March 28.

Get It Together For God" is a service intended to show each member that they are an important part of the church.

Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m. and worship service at 10:55.

The Rev. Jim Vaught is pastor of the church.

The Pastor Speaks

by Rex J. Bennett
"What Is A Christian?"

Ask the question, "What is a Christian?" to any number of people and you might receive any number of answers. Somehow there seems to be different views concerning this all-important and significant question, and most of these views pertain to the by-product of Christianity rather than the product itself. Some commonly held views are these:

A Christian is one who lives by the Golden Rule as given by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." This amounts to the doing of one's duty to other human beings, which of course is expected of all of us. I believe in that Rule but it is a by-product of Christianity.

A Christian is one who lives by the Ten Commandments as summarized by Jesus in the words: ".......love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, soul, mind, and body; and love thy neighbor as thyself." An orthodox Jew lives by the Moral Law of God, but call him a Christian and he would be insulted. Again, the Commandments are the by-product of Christianity.

A Christian is one who belongs to a certain church and/or denomination. The Bible calls the church "the Body of Christ" and all Christians should belong to that Body, but again, the church is a by-product of Christianity.

What then is a Christian? The answer is to be found in the New Testament in the Gospel of Mark. Remember that this record was written at a time when there was only one Christian on the face of the earth, Jesus Christ Himself; and it was He who said to those fisherman: "Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men." And when these fisherman "forsook their nets, and followed Him" they became Christians!

Christianity then is a "following-after" relationship to Jesus Christ. We follow after Him in faith; and in faith He is our Redeemer, our God, our Saviour. We follow him in a devotional way; we follow Him in an ethical way; we follow Him in an institutional way!

First and always, to follow after Jesus Christ is what declares us a Christian; and the by-products that we so commonly identify as Christian fall into their proper place: we live by the Golden Rule; we live by the Ten Commandments; we belong to the Church, "the Body of Christ."

Magician set

Mr. Bob Pollock, a professional magician, well known as "Mr. Magic" who specializes in Christian Programs, will present a one hour magic show at Yellow Branch Baptist Church this Sunday at 7 p.m.

Mr. Pollock is a member of the Fellowship of Christian Magicians and makes his home in Statesville, N. C.

Jordan Baptist news

Morning worship services, March 28 at 11:00 a.m.

On Thursday, March 25 and Friday, March 26, there will be preaching services sponsored by the Gospel Harmonettes. Thursday's guest will by Rev. J. W. Paige and the Scruggs Family and Fridays guest will be Rev. William Coleman and the Galilee Youth Service Singers. Both programs will begin at 7:30 p.m.

On Sunday beginning at 6:00 p.m. the Gospel Harmonettes will be celebrating their 10th anniversary. A delightful program has been planned, so mark your calendar to attend.

On the first Sunday in April at 7:30 p.m., the Golden Trumpteers will be singing here. This program is being sponsored by the Young Adult Choir.

Preaching services on the second Sunday is now being held at 5:30 p.m.

Times-Virginian Church News

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Chestnut Grove news

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Bryan and Mr. and Mrs. David Bryan attended the American Pork Congress in Indianapolis, Indiana last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Hinton Wheeling of Richmond were Wednesday dinner guest of Mr. and Mrs. V. C. Proffitt.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Beasely and Cal of Troutville were weekend visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Kemper M. Beasley, Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. Kelly Branch of Buckingham.

News has been received here of the death of Mrs. Grace Senger Phillips of Charlottesville. Sympathy is extended to the family.

Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Harris were Mr. and Mrs. H. Flood Harris of Green Bay. All were supper guest of Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Harris.

Friday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Morris were Mrs. Louie Foster of Farmville, her granddaughter, Mrs. Lisa Whaley of Lynchburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Morris and boys were Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Morgan of Andersonville.

Edward T. Cook of Prospect and C. Wayne Cook of Richmond spent Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Cook.

Nancy Roop of Crewe spent the weekend with Ethel Proffitt.

Mr. and Mrs. Kermit Cook of Chesterfield were Friday night visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin W. Morris Billy Morris of Richmond spent most of last week in the same home.

Mrs. Johnny M. Harris took her youth Sunday school class bowling in Lynchburg Saturday night.

Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Cook were Ruth Routen, Mrs. Annie Meggison and Mrs. Charlie Parker, all of Lynchburg.

Congratulations to Barbara Bryant Phelps on her recent marriage to Gordon Hurt of Keysville. They are making their home in Keysville.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Cook accompanied by Mrs. Lois Carter of Burkeville were in Richmond Wednesday for Mrs. Cooks doctor's appointment.

The regular W.M.S. meeting of the Chestnut Grove Baptist Church will be Friday, March 19 at 7:30 p.m. at the church.

Mrs. Susie Tolbert, Mrs. Virgie Bryant, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Tolbert were Saturday visitors of William Bryant at McGuire Veterans Hospital in Richmond and were dinner guest of Mrs. Pauline Allen, also of Richmond.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Morris and family attended the 85th birthday celebration of her father, Mr. Rice Seay at Andersonville Sunday.

Roger Spivey of Dillwyn was a Saturday night visitor of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Morris. Will Gilliam of Rustburg was a Monday visitor.

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Hardiman of Dillwyn spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Morris.

Mac Coleman of Appomattox spent Monday with Mr. and Mrs. Kemper M. Beasley, Sr.

Billy Saul and daughter, Johanna of Piney Point, Md. spent the weekend with Mrs. T. N. Saul. In celebration of Mrs. Saul's birthday they had dinner Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Moore, Jr. at Appomattox. Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Repass were also dinner guest. The Repasses also visited Mrs. Janie Repass at Blackstone Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Pope of Nottoway were recent visitors of his sister, Mrs. Alice Senger.

If You Have Social News Call 352-8215

Mt. Airy news

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Psalm 27:1

The program that was to be held on Sunday, March 28, at 3:00 p.m. has been cancelled until a later date.

The Sunday Schools are making plans for their annual Easter program which will be held on Easter Sunday night.

On the third Sunday in April at 3:00 p.m. The Brotherhood Club will be celebrating their anniversary. The message will be brought by the Rev. Winston Jones, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Lynchburg.

Plans are being made for the "Out Reach" services program which will be held on May 30, 1982.

Thought for the week:

"Keep looking up; all good and perfect gifts come from above."

Classified Ads Get Results

Mt. Pleasant

By ODELL CHAMBERS

The Pastor's Aid Club celebrated their fourth anniversary last Sunday. Guest minister was Rev. Everett Berryman of the Mt. Evergreen Baptist Church of Evington, Va. Along with his Senior Choir. Rev. Berryman Jr. is also the pastor of St. Paul Baptist Church of Forest, Va.

Mistress of Ceremonies was Mrs. Claudia Wooldridge, scripture was read by Mrs. Bernice Bailey, prayer was offered by Deacon Rosser Edward, welcome was given by Mrs. Mary Forbes. History of the club was given by Mrs. Odell Chambers. Introduction of speaker was performed by Mrs. Etta Edward. Roll call was read by Mrs. Gertrude Wesley, offering was taken by Mrs. Helen Ligon, Mrs. Gracie Walker and Mrs. Pearl Chambers. Presentation of the speaker was preformed by Mrs. Rosa Edward.

Everyone enjoyed the wonderful sermon and the music by the choir. The Rev. James Miller and Rev. John Edward were pulpit guests. Cannan, Gravel Hill, Peaks, St. James Trimpus and Zion Baptist Churches helped to make our program a success. Our pastor was unable to be with us. He had another program at the time. Due to the weather we had to reschedule our program.

Let us plan to go to Galilee this coming Sunday at 3 p.m. to hear Rev. Donald Hamlett and his men's chorus from Hat Creek Baptist Church of Brookneal, Va.

Deacon Rosser Edward went to see a doctor in Appomattox last week. He was sent to Lynchburg to see a bone specialist. He had a fall during the winter months. He is improving nicely.

The Senior Choir will practice Thursday at 6 p.m. Everyone please come and be on time.

There will be a church meeting Saturday at 4 p.m. We have a lot of business to take care of; especially our homecoming the fourth Sunday in July.

See you next week.

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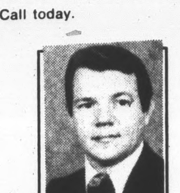

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